

Abstract

A technique for using the ISP, currently the consumer gateway for access to the Internet, also as a virtual “tollbooth” through which vendor-proprietary recorded media, such as music, movies, software, etc., each provided with embedded digital code identification, are passed to the subscribing consumer for downloading usage, with the ISP servicing the vendors by tracking the passage of the respective vendor media through the ISP gateway to the respective subscribing consumers and billing the respective consumers for the appropriate media vendor charges (royalties, etc.) as additions to the current ISP-consumer billing relationship. The billed vendors’ charges are distributed to the respective vendors, with the ISP retaining a service fee ISP.